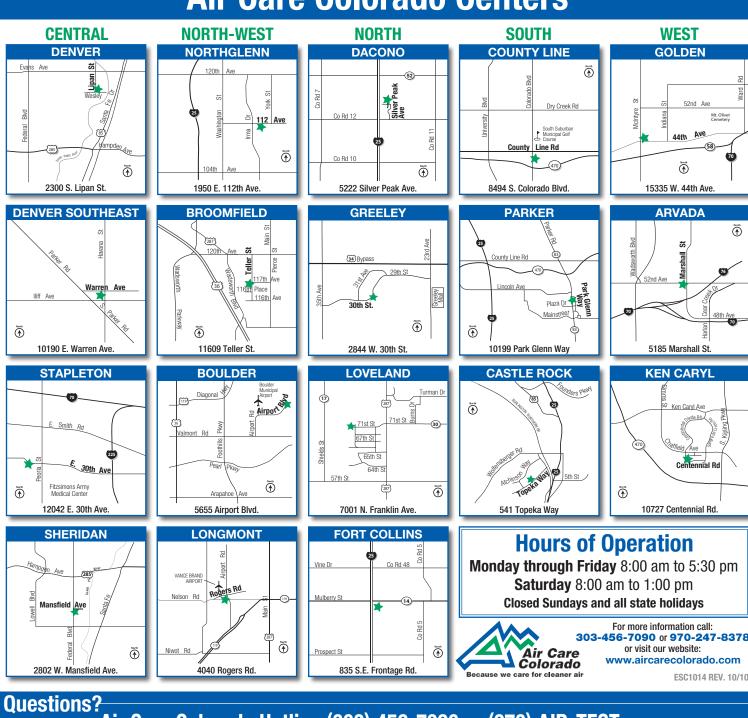
#### **Air Care Colorado Centers**



#### WHEN DOES MY **VEHICLE NEED A TEST?**

- 1982-and-newer vehicles: An enhanced emissions test is required every two years for vehicles more than four model years old. Your vehicle registration renewal postcard will state whether or not a test is required, or if your vehicle has qualified for the roadside emissions test. Fee is \$25.
- 1981-and-older vehicles: A two-speed idle test is required every year at an Air Care Colorado station or at an independent, licensed test station. Fee is \$15.
- Change of ownership: An emissions test is required when a vehicle is sold or its ownership changes. *The seller is responsible* for obtaining the test. A vehicle dealer may offer customers a voucher enabling the buyer to obtain a test. The dealer is responsible for repairing or repurchasing the vehicle if it fails the emissions test **but** the consumer must return the vehicle to the dealer within 3 days of the purchase. There is one exception to this rule. If a newer vehicle is sold and there are 12 months or more left on the original 4-year exemption, the vehicle does not require testing at the time of
- Commuters: Vehicles registered outside the region but driven into the nine-county area 90 or more days per year for work or school must have an emissions test.
- New MSO (Manufacturer Statement of Origin) vehicles purchased from a dealer are exempt from emissions testing for four

**Important Notice:** Be sure your vehicle actually is due for an emissions test before going to an Air Care Colorado testing station. State regulation (D.O.R. Air Program Regulation 2,200-E) requires testing stations to test all vehicles that are presented for testing. No refunds can be given for emissions tests on vehicles that were not actually due for a test. If you are not sure, call the Air Care Colorado Hotline or your local county motor vehicle office for information.

# **METROPOLITAN** & NORTHERN **FRONT RANGE**

**Vehicle Emissions Guide** 

# Consumer **Information**

Air Care Colorado's Enhanced **Vehicle Emissions Testing Program** 





**Counties:** 

Adams • Arapahoe • Boulder • Broomfield

Denver • Douglas • Jefferson • Larimer • Weld

Please call the Air Care Colorado Hotline (303) 456-7090 or (970) AIR-TEST aircarecolorado.com

#### THE I/M 240 TEST PROCESS

## **STEP**

An inspector guides the vehicle into the inspection lane, enters the vehicle identification number into the computer and makes a visual inspection of required emissions equipment. Customers go to the enclosed waiting area from which they can observe the inspection.





#### STEP

The vehicle is positioned on a treadmill-like device, which allows it to be tested under actual driving conditions. An On Board Diagnostics (OBD) cable is connected to 1986-and-newer model year vehicle computers, and a fan is positioned in front of the vehicle to keep the engine cool throughout the testing process. During the driving simulation, emissions are collected from the tailpipe and analyzed. On the basis of emissions data, some vehicles receive a "fast pass" while others may have to be tested for the full four-minute cycle.

## **STEP**

The vehicle is moved off the treadmill and the gas cap pressure test is performed. Once the pressure test is complete, the customer is given a report detailing the test results and the inspection fee is collected. If the vehicle fails, the customer will be provided with a list of repair facilities ranked by their repair effectiveness and a computer report providing useful information to assist the repair technician.



#### Questions?

Please call the Air Care Colorado Hotline (303) 456-7090 or (970) AIR-TEST aircarecolorado.com



RapidScreen is Air Care Colorado's convenient, mobile emissions testing program. By simply driving past a RapidScreen testing van, you can have your vehicle's emissions screened on the fly.

RapidScreen testing vans set up at highway on-ramps and other locations where vehicles are accelerating or driving uphill at a moderate speed, because these conditions generate the most representative sample of a vehicle's exhaust.

Is RapidScreen mandatory? NO, it is entirely voluntary.

**How do I know if I've qualified RapidScreen?** It will be stated on your registration renewal card; it will read, "PASSED ROADSIDE EMISSIONS"

Is it possible to fail RapidScreen but pass a standard tailpipe emissions test? Yes. Standards for RapidScreen are very strict. Only the cleanest, low-polluting vehicles will pass.

What happens if I don't qualify? If your vehicle does not qualify, there is NO penalty. It simply means that you must go to one of Air Care Colorado's 18 emissions testing stations for a standard tailpipe emissions test.

When should I drive by the vans? To meet RapidScreen qualifications, you must record two clean readings within a 10-month window. This window begins one year before your vehicle's registration renewal is due, and ends ten months later. For example, if your renewal month is June, the cutoff date for passing via RapidScreen is March 31.

**How often should I drive by?** Since it takes two clean readings, it's a good idea to drive by the RapidScreen vans several times within your 10-month window. *However, only one reading per site, per day will be accepted.* 

**NOTE:** Please, do not stop to talk with or to pay RapidScreen van operators. It is dangerous and they do not have immediate proof of qualification.

RapidScreen. It only takes a second.

#### **CONSUMER TIPS**

- Call the Air Care Colorado Hotline at (303) 456-7090 or (970) AIR TEST for best times to test, most convenient locations, and other program information.
- Avoid the busiest times: the first three days and last three days of the month. Mondays and the day after a holiday.
- The best times to test are Fridays, Saturdays and late afternoons.
- Warm up your engine thoroughly for at least 15 minutes prior to testing.
- Don't fill your gas tank just before getting an emissions test.
- Make sure you have a gas cap.
- Make sure your vehicle does not smoke.
- Make sure your tires are properly inflated; underinflated tires will not roll properly on the treadmill test.
- If your vehicle fails the test, the first retest is FREE within 10 calendar days.
- All test stations can test motorhomes and other oversized vehicles. However, centers with easiest motorhome access are: Arvada, Dacono, Denver SE, Ft. Collins, Golden, Greeley, Longmont, Loveland, Parker, Sheridan, Stapleton.

